GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4441
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2003
POLLUTING THERMAL POWER STATIONS
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether thermal power stations are spreading high amount of pollution in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures taken by the Government to check the pollution being caused by thermal power stations;

(d) whether pollution checking instruments have been installed at all the thermal power stations; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV)

(a)&(b): Out of 83 thermal power plants in the country, 48 plants are complying with emission standards and 52 are complying with ash pond effluent standards. According to information available, 31 power plants are yet to comply with emission standards and 27 plants are not complying with ash pond effluent standards. 4 power plants are presently closed.

(c) The measures taken to check pollution from thermal power plants include use of beneficiated coal, augmentation of the existing electrostatic precipitators (ESP) in a time bound manner and promoting utilization of fly ash.

(d)&(e) Presently 48 power plants have provided pollution control facilities to comply with emission standards. The reasons for delay in installation of pollution control equipments include financial constraints, space availability and need to supply continuous power.